

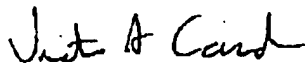
*Response Under 37 CFR § 1.116 \* - Expedited Procedure - Examining Group 3683  
Serial Number: 10/054,253  
Docket No. 0545.024*

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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**Applicant:** John E. Rode**Confirmation No.:** 3708**Serial No.:** 10/054,253**Group Art Unit:** 3683**Filed:** 01/22/2002**Examiner:** Xuan Lan T. Nguyen**Title:** ADJUSTABLE DISC SPRING SYSTEMS AND METHODS**Certificate of Facsimile Transmission**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted by facsimile on September 7, 2004 to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, Attn: Examiner Xuan Lan T. Nguyen, Group Art Unit 3683, at Facsimile No. (703) 872-9306.



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(including transmittal letter)

**RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

Dear Sir:

This paper is filed in response to the Final Office Action mailed on July 7, 2004, in connection with the above-identified U.S. patent application. The three-month period for response expires on October 7, 2004. Accordingly, this response is timely filed.

NOT approved for entry  
XLN 10/27/04